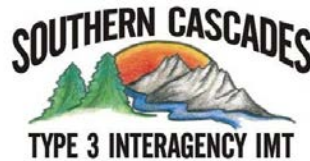




Willamette National Forest



Neil Miller  
Hans Schmidt (trainee)  
Incident Commander  
Type 3 Interagency IMT

## Fire Update – 08/06/2016 12:00 p.m. PT

**Closure Order:** The McKenzie River Trail between Trail Bridge Campground and Carmen Reservoir is closed and there is no access to the Blue Pool area. The fire, smoke, falling trees and rocks pose a high safety risk. Additional law enforcement officers are patrolling the fire area into the near future to ensure public and firefighter safety. <http://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/willamette/alerts-notice>.

### UPDATE

Estimated containment of the Blue Top fire has increased to 80% due to the work of firefighters mopping up the fire perimeter. Fire managers are optimistic that full containment will be achieved on Monday, August 8. However, the McKenzie River Trail and Blue Pool area will remain closed until weakened trees and other hazards are removed and damaged slopes are repaired.

Mop up operations and chipping will continue today. Rehabilitation strategies will be determined over the next few weeks, and will begin once fire danger has passed.

The McKenzie River is a valuable source of drinking water for the Eugene and Springfield metro areas. Resource advisors have been involved in fire planning since initial attack, recommending measures to protect water quality, sensitive habitat and recreation areas. Measures include helicopter routes being altered to avoid nesting areas, and water buckets and vehicles being washed with high-pressure hot water to remove invasive species.

Due to bridge repair on Hwy 20, traffic on Hwy 126 is heavier than usual. Since firefighting vehicles continue to use Hwy 126 for access to the fire, the public is encouraged to reduce speeds and stay alert in the fire area. Oregon State Police have increased patrols in the area to respond to higher public safety concerns.

Recreation facilities throughout the area offer many options for enjoying the forest. The open portions of the McKenzie River Trail offer access to Sahalie and Koosah Falls, Deer Creek Hot Springs, and the beautiful McKenzie River. Fish Lake Remount Depot, a unique and historic site, is accessed on the Santiam Wagon Road at the Upper McKenzie River Trailhead. King Castle Trail, O'Leary Trail, and Olallie Trail are great options for hikes, and Clear Lake is perfect for swimming and kayaking.

Detailed information regarding the fire is available on Inciweb: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4919/>.

*This Fire Update was produced by the Blue Top Fire Information Center staffed by Southern Cascades Type 3 Incident Management Team.*

Quick Facts Blue Top Fire Summary	
Location:	12 miles Northeast of McKenzie Bridge, Oregon
Approximate Size:	58 acres
Fire Containment:	80%
Start Date:	July 27, 2016
Cause:	Under Investigation
Incident Commander:	Neil Miller, Hans Schmidt (t), Type 3 Team
Resources on the Fire:	(3) Type 2 Handcrews 3 Engines 1 Dozer 2 Water tenders Type 3 Helicopter
Total Personnel:	108
Jurisdiction:	USFS



FOR ADDITIONAL AND UPDATED LOCAL FIRE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

Willamette NF: [www.fs.usda.gov/willamette](http://www.fs.usda.gov/willamette)

Twitter at [www.twitter.com/WillametteNF](https://twitter.com/WillametteNF)

Facebook at U.S. Forest Service - Willamette National Forest

Inciweb: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4919/>